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10/678,646	10/06/2003	Timothy L. Robinson	134779.10101	7815
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EXAMINER VANDERHORST, MARIA VICTORIA				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/678,646

Applicant(s)

ROBINSON ET AL.

Examiner

M. VICTORIA VANDERHORST

Art Unit

3688

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08/25/2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 33, 35-58 and 60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33, 35-58 and 60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is in response to the amendment filed on 08/25/2010 for the application No. 10/678,646. Claims 1-32 have been previously withdrawn. Claims 34, 59 and 66-69 have been previously cancelled. Claims 33, 35-58 and 60 are currently pending and have been examined. Claims 33, 35-58 and 60 have been rejected as follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 33-34, 40-53, and 54-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,256,737 (Bianco et al) in view of US. Pg. Pub No. 2003/0130954 (Carr).**

As to claim 33, Bianco discloses a method for enabling a user with a partial enrollment record stored in a system database in a biometric system to use the biometric system (abstract, Fig. 6), comprising:

receiving, at a first enrollment station, first enrollment data for a user (See at least Fig. 1, element 106, and Col. 2: 53-67 and Col. 3:1-17);

storing, in a system user record in a system database, the first enrollment data (Bianco's solution comprises biometric templates analogous to "system user record", see at least Fig. 5, element 502, Col. 17:38-48);

receiving, at a computing device at a second enrollment station, identifying information for a user;

(Bianco's solution teaches the type of devices that the user needs to be enrolled, see at least Fig. 6, element 618.

Further, Bianco teaches, "...the types of devices the user needs to be enrolled in are determined by looking at the biometric policy 504 assigned to the user's biometric group 506...", Col. 19: 24-40);

receiving, at the computing device, second enrollment data for the user, wherein the second enrollment data differs from the first enrollment data, wherein total enrollment data is the combination of the first and second enrollment data

(Bianco teaches, "...Once it is known which biometric policy 504 will be applied, a biometric template 502 is created for each biometric device 508 associated with the biometric policy 504 by enrolling the user in each device. This is shown in step 620. Alternatively, a biometric template 502 can be created for each biometric device within network system 202. Finally, in step 622, each computer ID 512, biometric device ID 508, biometric group 506, biometric policy 504, user

ID 510, biometric template 502 and application ID 514 is stored in biometric server 104...", Col. 19:24-40.

The Examiner notes that Bianco's solution comprises a biometric policy 504, which contains the number of devices that the user needs to enroll because the execution of the biometric policy involves the use of on or more biometric templates, Col. 2:53-66, Col. 17:49-67 and Col. 18:1-8, Fig. 5.

Furthermore, Bianco's solution comprises different enrollment stations, Col. 10:1-27 and different devices with different templates required by the system to authenticate an user, Col. 2:53-66);

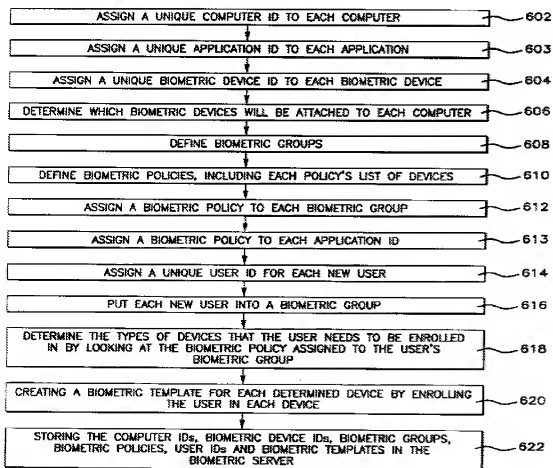


FIG. 6

Sending, from the computer device, the second enrollment data to said system database

(Bianco discloses, "...The reports may include a list of different types of data stored in biometric server 104 (e.g., a list of the currently enrolled users in biometric system 102). In addition, administration station 108 is typically used to setup the initial data in biometric server 104...", Col. 10:14-27);

storing, in said system database, second enrollment data in the system user record (Col. 16:36-44 and Col. 23:17-29);

Identify the system user record based on the total enrollment data

(Bianco teaches type of devices that the user needs to enroll, each device has a different biometric template, fig 6, elements 618 and 620. Further, Bianco's method uses scores to test the user in the different biometric devices, if the user passes a threshold police then the user is authenticated, Col. 35:53-67 and Col. 36:1-11).

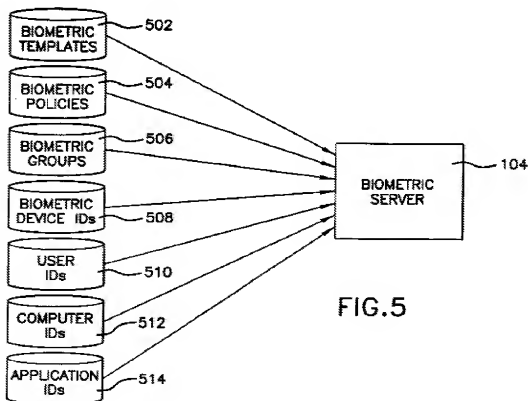
But, Bianco does not disclose identifying the system user record as active.

However, Carr discloses a system that when establishes a record, sets a flag indicator to "active" value (¶ 0044).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to incorporate Carr's teaching into the system of Bianco. One would be motivated to render data that reflects the status of user's record, in order to reflect a robust biometric system.

As to claims 40 and 41, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses wherein one or more of the first enrollment station and the second enrollment station

(The Examiner notes that Bianco's solution comprises a biometric policy 504, which contains the number of devices that the user needs to enroll. Furthermore, Bianco's solution comprises different enrollment stations, Col. 10:1-27. Also, the Examiner notices that Bianco's solution comprises a biometric server which contains biometric policies to authenticate users. "...each pre-defined biometric policy 504 has a list of devices associated to it...", See at least Col. 17:49-67 and Col. 18:1-8, Fig. 5)



The second enrollment station includes a record output device for outputting one or more system access records and, wherein each of the records are is configured as one or more of a printed report, a media output to an electronic device and an email (Col. 10:14-48).

Further, Bianco discloses the user is asked to give biometric measurements a few different times (Col. 27:1-2 and Col. 28:1-12). The Examiner notes that it is inherent that if Bianco's solution comprises a database system, it has a timestamp feature in place to store the date and the time and the identification of each transaction that access the database records.

As to claim 42, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses

displaying, at one or more of the first enrollment station, and the second enrollment station, one or more portions of system user enrollment data stored at said system database

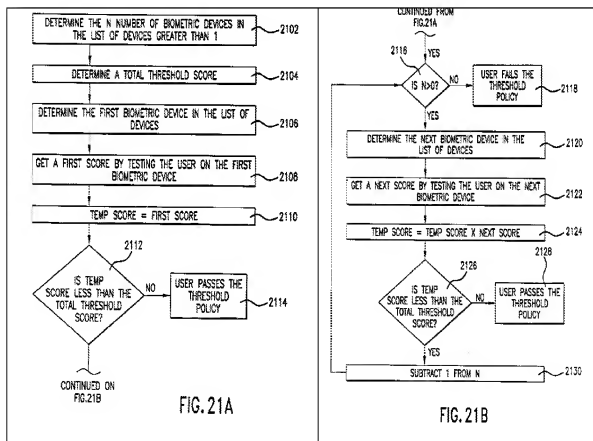
(in Bianco's system the user is requested to provide multiple fingerprint measurements, Col. 27:1-2 and Col. 28:1-12. Further, Bianco's system comprises different types of devices with a determined biometric template for each device);

prompting the system user to confirm the displayed data (Bianco's solution has biometric policies, Col. 29:60-67 and Col. 30:1-3);

receiving confirmation of the displayed data from and storing, at said system database, the confirmation (Col. 30:15-30).

As to claim 43, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 42, and further Bianco discloses further comprising enabling the user to present corrected data (The threshold policy in Bianco's solution allows flexibility, correction, to the level of protection to pass the authentication process, Col. 3:18-32, Fig. 31).

As to claim 44, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses comprising receiving verification of one or more portions of the total enrollment data from a system operator (Fig. 21A, 21B and Figs. 31).



As to claim 45, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claims 44, and further Bianco discloses verifying portions of the total enrollment data (Bianco discloses an enrollment station, Fig. 1, element 106).

But Bianco does not disclose offering said system operator one or more incentives

However, Carr discloses a mailing system that employs biometric data to identify a sender and offers postage discounts (¶¶ 0044 and 0053)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to incorporate Carr's teaching into the system of Bianco. One would be motivated to provide some stimulus via regular mail to gather user data.

As to claims 46 and 58, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claims 44 and 54, and further Bianco discloses comprising comparing system operator data with data stored at said system database (Bianco discloses a biometric server, 104 and an enrollment station, 106. "...The types of data stored in biometric server 104 are partially determined through the operations of enrollment station 106 and administration station 108. Enrollment station 106 is used to enroll users into biometric system 102. Enrollment station 106 has attached to it every type of biometric device used by biometric system 102 to enroll and ultimately authenticate users...", Col. 10:1-27).

As to claims 47, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claims 44, and further Bianco discloses wherein the system operator is remote from one or more of the first enrollment station and the second enrollment station

(Fig. 2, Elements 106, enrollment station and element 208, user computer.

Further, The Examiner interprets each of the Biometric devices as an "enrollment station", since the devices are hardware and each of biometric devices 508 is associated with a biometric template 502, "...Enrollment station 106 is used to enroll users into biometric system 102. Enrollment station 106 has attached to it every type of biometric device used by biometric system 102 to enroll and ultimately authenticate users...", Col. 10:1-14).

As to claim 48, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 44 and 54, and further Bianco discloses wherein the verification includes a biometric sample received from the system user (Bianco teaches, "...First, a user is prompted for multiple samples of a fingerprint. For each sample, a number of characteristics or measurements are identified. Then, for all of the multiple samples, a number of common characteristics or measurements are identified...", Col. 8: 41-54).

As to claim 49, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 44, and further Bianco discloses storing the verification in the system user record (Bianco teaches, "... The device open interface is propriety software that is used to communicate to biometric devices in order to retrieve live sample data, match live sample data against stored data (i.e., biometric templates)...", Col. 14:9-19)

As to claim 50, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses wherein the first enrollment data and the second enrollment data comprises one or more biometric records (Bianco teaches, "...In FIG. 5, biometric server 104 (FIG. 1) stores collections of biometric templates 502, biometric policies 504, biometric groups 506, biometric device IDs 508, user IDs 510, computer IDs 512 and application IDs 514...", Col. 17:38-48).

As to claim 51, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses wherein said system database is located at one or more of the first enrollment station and the second enrollment station (Col. 14:25-32).

As to claim 52, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses comprising verifying, by one or more third parties or third party databases, the data stored at said system database (Col. 56:1-27).

As to claim 53, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses comprising sending an identification number to authenticate a sending device (Bianco discloses "...biometric device IDs, user IDs", Col. 2:53-64).

As to claim 60, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, and further Bianco discloses wherein said system database includes a plurality of system databases (Col. 16:64-66 and Col. 17:1-10).

3. Claims 35-38, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,256,737 (Bianco et al) in view of US. Pg. Pub No. 2003/0130954 (Carr) and in view of US Patent No. 7,630,986 (Herz at al).

As to claims 35-38, Bianco and Carr disclose the method of claim 33, but Bianco does not disclose comprising:

prompting a user to select at least one incentive from a plurality of incentives wherein the plurality of incentives includes one or more of an item, a service, a gift certificate, a coupon, a discount, and money.

rendering said at least one incentive by one or more of a direct rendering of said incentive, a paper- based promise of said incentive and an electronic-based promise of said incentive.

automatically dispensing said at least one incentive.

However, Herz discloses a user identifier used in biometrics via a credit card and provide promotional offers and coupons. The incentive is provided in automatic way for example at a kiosk using a biometric ID (Col 54:3-15 and Col. 151:29-39)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to incorporate Herz's teaching into the system of Bianco. One would be motivated to provide stimulus to gather user data in order to build a reliable and robust biometric database.

As to claim 39, Bianco, Carr and Herz disclose the method of claim 33, but Bianco does not disclose further comprising sending said at least one incentive via a parcel delivery network.

However, Carr discloses a mailing system that employs biometric data to identify a sender and offers postage discounts (¶¶ 0044 and 0053)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to incorporate Carr's teaching into the system of Bianco. One would be motivated to provide stimulus via regular mail to gather user data.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments files on 08/25/2010 have been fully considered.
5. The rejection of the claims 33-60 and 66 under 35 USC 112 second paragraph have been withdrawn in view of the amendments and cancellation of claims 34 and 66.
6. The rejection of the claims 33-66 and 66-69 under 35 USC 101, have been withdrawn because the Applicant amended the claims and cancellation of claims 34, 66-69.
7. Applicants argue

Amended independent claim 33 is nonobvious over Bianco in view of Carr because Bianco and Carr, whether considered alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every limitation of independent claim 33. More particularly, the combination of Bianco and Carr fails to teach or suggest at least the combination of the following limitations of claim 33:

- receiving, at a first enrollment station, first enrollment data for a user;
- storing, in a system user record in a system database, the first enrollment data;
- receiving, at a computing device at a second enrollment station, second enrollment data for the user, wherein the second enrollment data differs from the first enrollment data, wherein total enrollment data is the combination of the first and second enrollment data; and
- identifying the system user record as active based on the total enrollment data...

Bianco does not teach or suggest receiving enrollment data from separate enrollment stations. Bianco merely discloses receiving different biometric inputs from different biometric devices during a single authentication session. In contrast, claim 33 requires receiving first enrollment data at a first enrollment enabling session (i.e., a pre-enrollment session) and second enrollment data at a separate second enrollment station. The combination of the first and second enrollment data (i.e., the total enrollment data) is then used to activate the system user record. Bianco does not teach or suggest the performance of such steps.

Carr does not resolve the deficiencies of Bianco. Carr merely teaches activating an image based on whether it has been used during the course of a day. Carr does not teach or suggest combining data from separate enrollment enablement stations to determine whether to activate or not. More particularly, Carr does not teach receiving data from separate enablement enrollment stations or using such data to activate a system user record based on such data, as required by claim 33.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument from the Applicants because, First of all, Bianco's solution discloses receiving enrollment data, see Fig. 13, the system creates a database object and enrollment object to be stored in the database, Fig. 3A, further Bianco teaches several enrollment stations, pre-enroll sessions, and a final enrollment session to end the enrollment process, Fig. 13B.

Secondly, Bianco's solution comprises at least a biometric policy which contains the devices that the user needs to enroll to complete the enrollment process, each device to enroll creates a biometric template. Once the user has completed the enrollment process in the last biometric device the enrolled process is ended and the user is ready for authentication, see at least Fig. 13 elements 1328, 1330, Col. 19:24-40, and Col. 2:53-66.

Thirdly, the Examiner notes that the fact that applicant has recognized another advantage which would flow naturally from following the suggestion of the prior art cannot be the basis for patentability when the differences would otherwise be obvious. See *Ex parte Obiaya*, 227 USPQ 58, 60 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985), and

Finally, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

8. Applicants argue

Bianco does not teach or suggest receiving enrollment data from separate enrollment stations. Bianco merely discloses receiving different biometric inputs from different biometric devices during a single authentication session. In contrast, claim 33 requires receiving first enrollment data at a first enrollment enabling session (i.e., a pre-enrollment session) and second enrollment data at a separate second enrollment station. The combination of the first and second enrollment data (i.e., the total enrollment data) is then used to activate the system user record. Bianco does not teach or suggest the performance of such steps.

Carr does not resolve the deficiencies of Bianco. Carr merely teaches activating an image based on whether it has been used during the course of a day. Carr does not teach or suggest combining data from separate enrollment enablement stations to determine whether to activate or not. More particularly, Carr does not teach receiving data from separate enablement enrollment stations or using such data to activate a system user record based on such data, as required by claim 33.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument from the Applicants because, in Fig. 13A and 13B Bianco discloses the enrollment of a user in different devices. Further, Bianco's solution comprises different enrollment stations, Col. 10:1-27 and different devices with different templates required by the system to authenticate an user, Col. 2:53-66).

Finally, the limitation "receiving enrollment data from separate enrollment stations" is not in the claims.

Conclusion

Applicants' amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. VICTORIA VANDERHORST whose telephone number is (571)270-3604. The examiner can normally be reached on regular.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on 571 272 6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. V./
Examiner, Art Unit 3688
Oct 29/2010

/C. Michelle Tarae/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3688